

Message Text

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ORIGIN ARA-17

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY MEXICO

UNCLAS STATE 067193

E/ O. 11652: N/ A

TAGS: EPET, MX

SUBJECT: US ASSISTANCE FOR MEXICAN OIL EXPLORATION

1. CHICAGO DAILY NEWS OF MARCH 22 CARRIED AP STORY DATE-LINED MEXICO CAPTIONED: " CAN' T SUPPLY US FUEL-- MEXICO." STORY INCLUDED FOLLOWING: ANTONIO DOVALI JAIME, DIRECTOR OF PEMEX SAID US OFFERS OF ASSISTANCE TO EXPAND PRODUCTION WERE REJECTED BECAUSE THEY REQUIRED THE EXPORTS OF FUELS NEEDED BY MEXICO. DOVALI SAID THE US OFFERED PEMEX TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND CREDITS FOR EXPLORATION AND DRILLING AS WELL AS CREDITS FOR PRODUCTION AND TRANSPORTATION. HE DID NOT SAY WHEN THE OFFERS WERE MADE. A BASIC CONDITION FOR THE OFFERS, HE SAID, WAS PAYMENT " WITH PART OF THE PRODUCTION OF MEXICO' S OIL." DOVALI SAID THAT PRESIDENT ECHEVERRIA, BACKED BY PEMEX' S FAVORABLE SITUATION WITH RESPECT TO TECHNICIANS AND CREDITS, REJECTED THE OFFERS. " IN THAT WAY WE DISCARDED THE POSSIBILITIES OF ESTABLISHING

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INTERNATIONAL OBLIGATIONS THAT OVER THE YEARS CONSTITUTE
HEAVY LOADS ON THE NATIONAL ECONOMY AND POTENTIAL BLOCKADES
TO ITS DEVELOPMENT," DOVALI SAID. END OF ITEM.

2. EMBASSY IS REQUESTED TO PROVIDE ANY INFORMATION ON US
ASSISTANCE REFERRED TO ABOVE. ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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